

## COMPASSION SUNDAY: IT BEGINS WITH A CHILD...



## ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH

Here are some ideas that will raise awareness, and participation to help make Compassion Sunday an event to remember for the youth in your church.

### GAMING FAST

When you log on to X-box, you can see a map where all the other gamers around the world are lit up. There are millions! But have you ever noticed how Africa has hardly any lights? Online gaming or consoles are beyond the reach of millions of children. Doesn't sound fair? How about drawing attention to the fact so many children don't have basic things, let alone gaming consoles, TVs and other entertainments.

Agree to give up gaming for a weekend – Friday through Sunday – in a “Game Fast.”

Keep a blog (perhaps on the church website or start your own blog) or journal to write how you feel about it, how you filled your time, and how you do without something that is good fun...it will be a challenge!

Then, report back to your groups/meetings/classes and use your blogs/reflections to talk about the things we have but other children don't.

### CONTRASTING IMAGES

Use your digital camera, or with permission someone else's to take 5 pictures of 5 things that you think you take for granted in your everyday life. Download and print out all the pictures from your group.

Then take photographs of 5 basic things that you think are essential for children and young peoples' lives and print those out too. Use the contrasting images to create a collage for the church – a visual reminder for Compassion Sunday of just how poverty creates a gap between children in different circumstances.

### CHILDREN'S COMPASSION CHARTER

Using pictures, poems, drawings, reflections, images, words, music, (perhaps some of the items above), anything in any media you can, design and create a 'Children's Compassion Charter'.

The Charter should illustrate the problems facing children in developing nations, and how we can pray and help them: maybe use some words along the lines of “We, the young people of [church] commit ourselves to pray, work and speak out for children who are in need ...” (or something that you write that is much better!). We'd love to see what you create!

### POVERTY DOESN'T 'AD' UP

OK, here's a challenge for you. Can you be an advertising genius and create, on your mobile, a ten second commercial that promotes what Compassion Sunday is about. For instance, you might film one of your friends walking along a road and your voice saying 'walk with the world's children - Compassion Sunday is coming.' OR ... whatever you like. In just ten seconds, what can you, your voice, your imagination, your friends, your place come up with?